



*Executive Officer's
Report to the Board
March 19, 2004*

Board Updates

Board Staff Tours Trauma Recovery Center

The Board continues to support a demonstration project in partnership with the University of California, San Francisco Trauma Recovery Center at San Francisco General Hospital. The four-year project is designed to increase crime victims' access to mental health and clinical case management services. This pilot also includes a study to evaluate whether the services are cost-effective and clinically effective, and to identify potential barriers for victims accessing financial assistance and other services.

Catherine Close, Interim Executive Officer, Pete Williams, Deputy Executive Officer-Victim Compensation Program, and Anita Ahuja, Executive Liaison, visited the Center on March 4. The Center's Executive Director and staff presented an overview of their work and preliminary findings. The San Francisco Victim Witness Office will present an award to the Center on April 21 for the impact they have had on patient services.

Board staff is working with the Center to review their clinical data and draft a well-documented report, due to the Legislature on May 1, 2004. The Center will present its report at the April 23 Board meeting.

Victim Compensation

Board Staff Will Participate in Victims' Rights Week

April 18-24 is National Victims' Rights Week, with this year's theme being, "*Victims' Rights: America's Values.*" The annual observance is intended to increase public awareness concerning the impact of crime on victims, their families and communities. The Board will be actively participating in Victims' Rights Week activities.

The Board plans to mail posters, both in Spanish and English, to all California hospitals informing them of Victims' Rights Week and asking them to display program posters in their facilities. Hospitals are one location crime victims may go to seek help immediately following a crime.

A Victims' Rights Week message will appear on April's state employee pay warrants, and staff are working with the California State Employees Association (CSEA) to have a similar message placed in their newsletter or on their website. An article written by Interim Executive Officer Catherine Close is slated to appear in the April issue of the Journal of the California

BOARD UPDATES.....	1
VICTIM COMPENSATION	1
REVENUE RECOVERY	2
UPCOMING EVENTS.....	3
COMPENSATION PROGRAM ACTIVITY	4
REVENUE AND RECOVERY CHARTS.....	5
GOVERNMENT CLAIMS CHARTS	7

Dental Association. The article explains how the program helps victims who suffer dental injuries.

Board staff plan to participate in the 15th annual March on the Capitol at 11:30 a.m. on April 20. Hundreds of crime victims and advocates from around the state will gather to bring attention to the issue of victims' rights. Photographs of loved ones lost to violent crimes will be displayed. The Board will staff a booth at the Capitol to inform the public of the services we provide to victims. The Silent Witness silhouettes, representing victims killed as a result of domestic violence, will also be on display.

Revenue Recovery

Restitution Collected from Death Row Inmate's Inheritance

Offenders are held accountable for their actions through payment of restitution to their victims and to the Board. Restitution also helps ensure sufficient funds are available for the Victim Compensation Program to provide timely assistance to all victims.

Death row inmate Charles Keith Richardson owed the Board \$10,000 for a restitution fine. Board staff received notice that Mr. Richardson was about to inherit \$4,753.01 from his mother's estate. Staff Counsel Deborah Bain filed a lien in probate court, resulting in the Board's receipt of Mr. Richardson's entire inheritance.

Success Continues for Court-Ordered Debt Collection Program

The Board's joint effort with the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) to collect unpaid restitution fines and orders from former parolees and probationers is now in its third month. When a restitution fine or order balance exists at the time an offender is released from parole or probation, the file is usually closed, collection activity typically ceases, and the obligations remain outstanding.

The Court-Ordered Debt Collection Program works to collect the millions of dollars in potential revenue lost annually to the Board. The FTB sends monthly demand for payment requests to delinquent debtors. If the debtor fails to pay or make arrangements within the 10-day period, FTB looks for assets to levy.

In January, the Board sent FTB 1,000 cases covering \$8.2 million owed to the Restitution Fund. Additionally, 5,000 cases totaling approximately \$9.4 million were sent in February, and 2,000 cases worth approximately \$1.9 million were sent in March. The FTB will send out March's demand letters the fourth week in March.

As of March 10, 2004, FTB has collected \$139,560 and disbursed \$118,626 to the Restitution Fund. The FTB retains a 15 percent administrative fee. The Board has received over 1,000 calls from offenders or their families in response to these letters. Board staff is tracking the workload carefully to allocate appropriate resources to this project.

Upcoming Events

(The conferences and events listed below are for informational purposes only.)

April 1 Children and Domestic Violence: Working Together to Break the Cycle

Sponsored by the Sacramento Domestic Violence Prevention Collaboration, this conference will be held April 1 at the Lions Gate Hotel in Sacramento. For more information, phone Kim Bauer at (530) 752-8985.

April 4-8 California State Sheriffs' Association 110th Annual Conference

The 2004 annual conference will be held April 4-8 in Riverside County. For more information, phone (916) 375-8000.

April 7-9 Fourth Annual International Domestic Violence, Sex Assault, and Stalking Conference

Co-sponsored by Stop Domestic Violence and SATI, Inc., this conference will be held April 7-9 in San Diego. For conference information, call (858) 679-2913.

April 18-24 National Victims' Rights Week

The annual March on the Capitol will take place at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 20. This year's theme is "*Victims' Rights: America's Values.*" For more information, call the California Correctional Peace Officers' Association at (916) 372-6060.

April 26-28 Rez Violence: Prevention and Intervention

Sponsored by the National Indian Justice Center, this conference focusing on violence on Indian reservations will be held April 26-28 in San Diego. For more information, call (707) 579-5507.

April 30-May 1 Violence in the World of Our Youth Mini-Conference

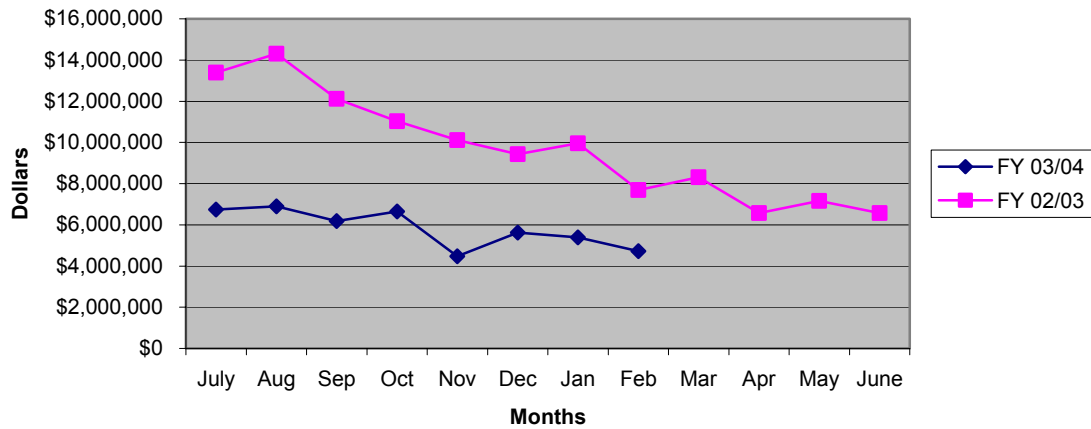
Sponsored by the Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute, this mini-conference will be held April 30-May 1 in San Diego. For more information, call Rocky Rowley at (858) 623-2777, ext. 442.

Victim Compensation Program Activity

VCP PAYMENTS

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of February	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 03/04	\$4,722,647	\$46,682,143	-47%
FY 02/03	\$7,684,748	\$88,024,594	

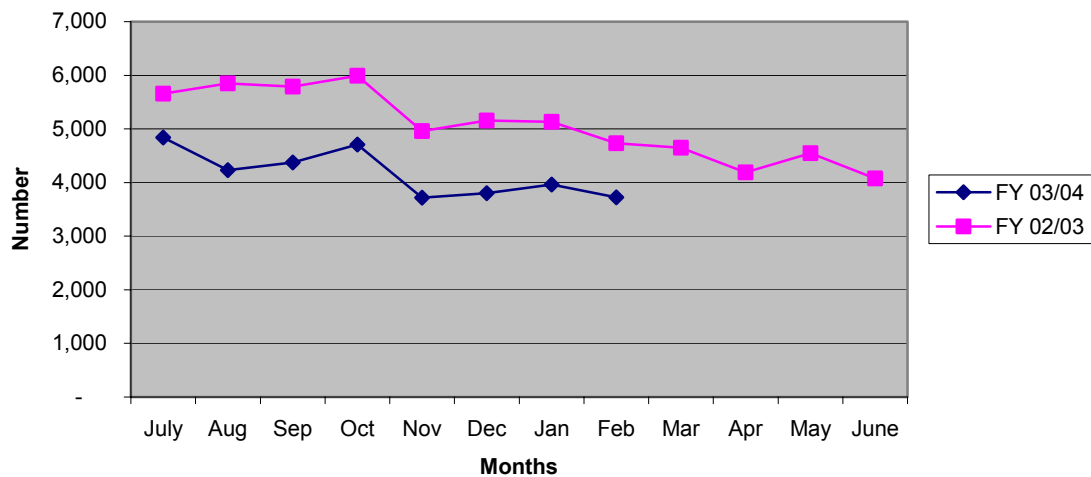
Payment Awards



VCP NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of February	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 03/04	3,726	33,362	-23%
FY 02/03	4,731	43,263	

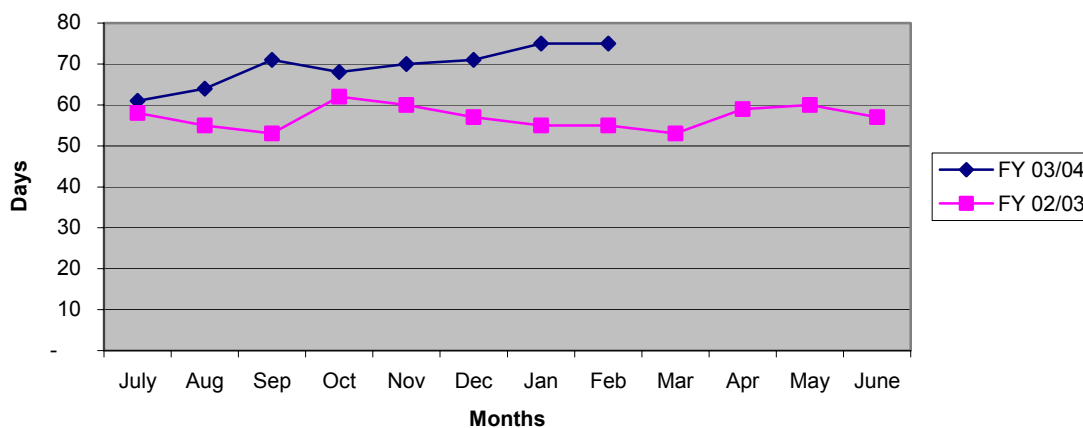
Number of VCP Applications Received



VCP APPLICATION PROCESSING TIME¹ IN DAYS

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of February	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior
FY 03/04	75	69	22%
FY 02/03	55	57	

VCP Application Processing Time

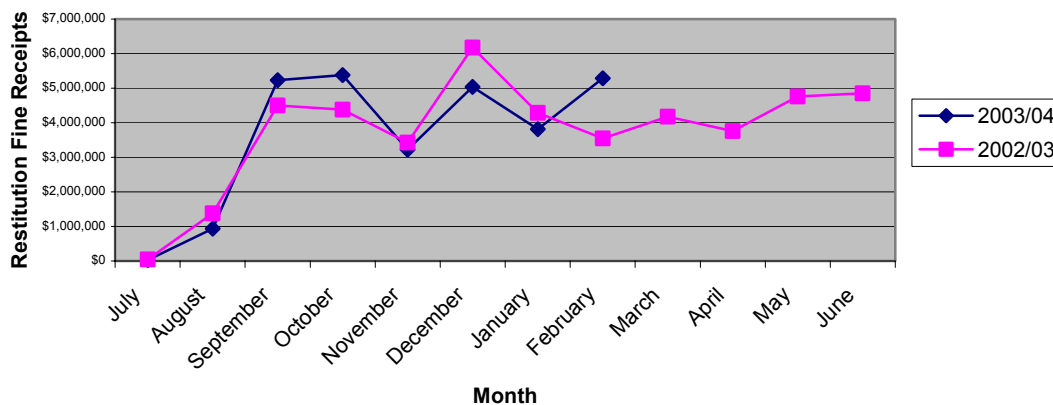


Revenue and Recovery

RESTITUTION FINES

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of February	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 03/04	\$5,287,579	\$28,924,475	4%
FY 02/03	\$3,545,866	\$27,728,988	-

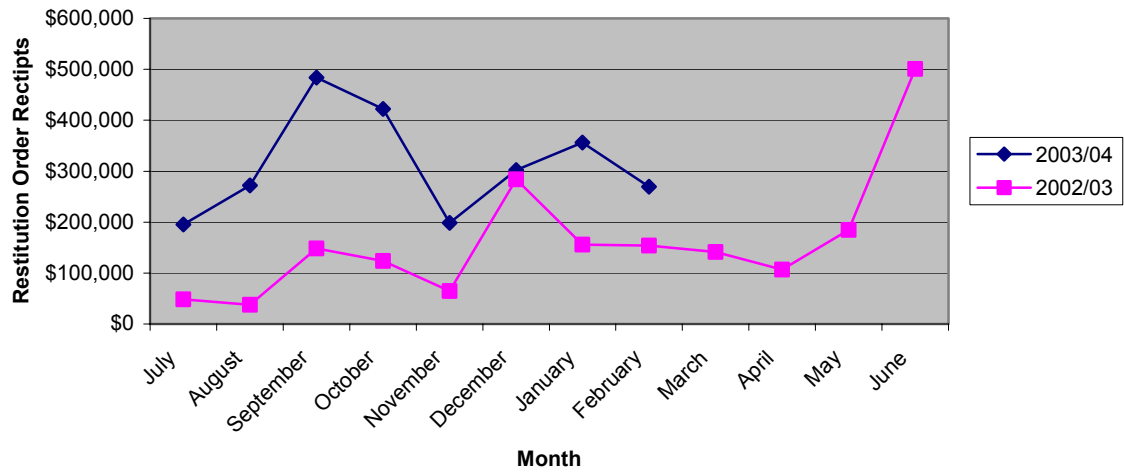
Restitution Fine Receipts By Month



RESTITUTION ORDERS

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of February	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 03/04	\$269,255	\$2,498,976	146%
FY 02/03	\$154,080	\$1,017,121	-

Restitution Order Receipts By Month

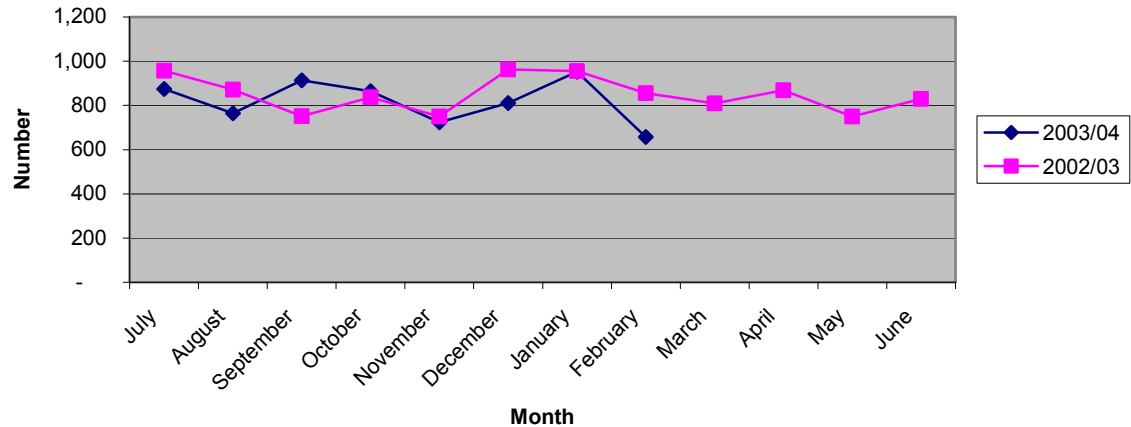


Government Claims

GOVERNMENT CLAIMS RECEIVED

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of February	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 03/04	657	6,560	-5%
FY 02/03	856	6,939	-

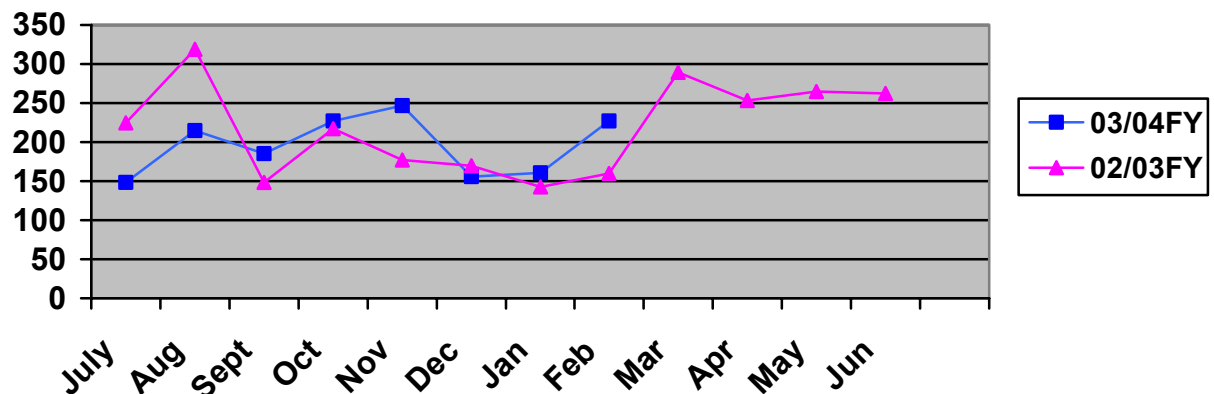
Government Claims Received



CONTRACT CLAIMS² – AVERAGE PROCESSING TIME

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of February	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 03/04	227	191	4%
FY 02/03	160	183	

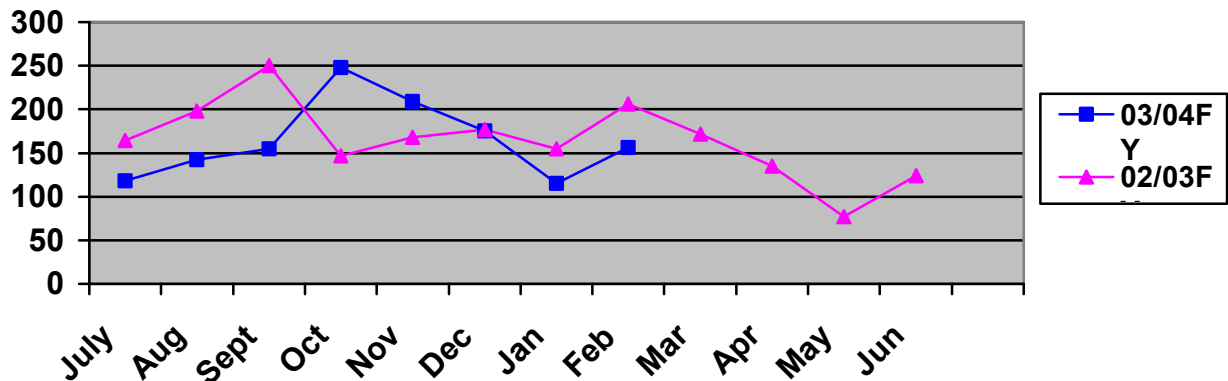
Contract Claims- Average Processing Time



EQUITY CLAIMS³ – AVERAGE PROCESSING TIME

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of February	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 03/04	156	172	-8%
FY 02/03	206	186	

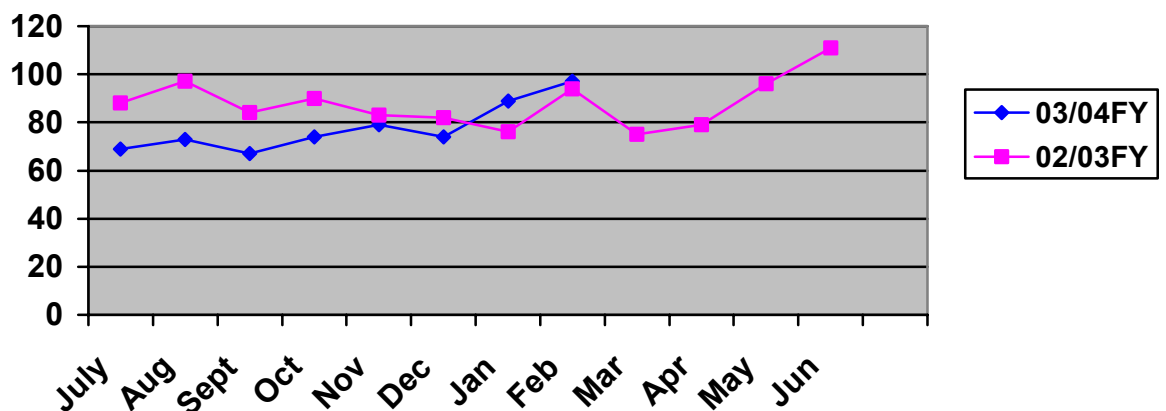
Equity Claims - Average Processing Time



TORT CLAIMS⁴ – AVERAGE PROCESSING TIME

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of February	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 03/04	97	78	-11%
FY 02/03	94	88	

Tort Claims - Average Processing Time



¹ **VCP Application Processing Time** - We have changed the method for calculating the time it takes to process a claim to more closely follow the statute. For eighteen months we used the Federal Office for Victims of Crime's (OVC) definition of processing time. Their definition was, "The processing period begins when the compensation program first receives an application and ends when a check is mailed to or on behalf of an eligible victim. Count all calendar days during the processing period, including days in which the program is awaiting information, as well as the days from the time your program requests a check to be sent until the time the check is actually sent."

The OVC no longer uses that definition as part of their Victim Compensation Performance Report. The definition has inherent inaccuracies and does not address the entire program workload, as it does not include denied claims.

Therefore, we are using the method defined in Government Code 13958, which requires us to approve or deny completed applications within an average of 90 days of acceptance. Government Code 13952 requires our staff to determine whether an application contains all of the required information to make a decision, as defined in 649.9 of the California Code of Regulations. If an application is incomplete, staff contacts the victim to seek the missing information. The counting of processing time begins when we accept an application as complete and ends on the consent hearing date (the date the staff recommendation to award or deny a claim becomes the initial decision of the agency).

The EO Report shows the re-calculated average processing time for each month from July 2002 through February 2004.

² **Contract claims** -These are typically claims where a vendor has provided services to the State, but a purchase order or contract was not officially in place at the time the services were performed and, therefore, the affected agency does not have the authority to pay the invoice without the Board's approval.

³ **Equity Claims** - These are claims where there is no legal liability on the part of the State to pay, but for which the claimant has asked the Board to exercise its equity power to provide payment in fairness for the action or inaction of a State agency. Also included to a large degree are outdated warrants (State-issued checks that went un-cashed for more than 3 years).

⁴ **Tort Claims** -These are claims for damages filed against specific State agencies. These claims are generally rejected, but are a required administrative action to be taken by a claimant prior to bringing civil action against the State in a court of law. The filing of the Tort claim gives the State advance notice of potential future litigation.